

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NASSAU 01167 261913Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 COME-00 L-03
/063 W

-----128569 270603Z /13

R 261522Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1050

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1167

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MILI, EAIR, ECON, ETRD, BF, US

SUBJ: NAVFAC ELEUTHERA AIRFIELD, GOVERNORS HARBOR, ELEUTHERA

REF: NASSAU 1140

1. EMBASSY NOTES THAT IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE TRANSMITTED VIA REFTEL, GCOB ONLY ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO UNDERTAKE MODIFICATIONS TO GOVERNORS HARBOR AIRFIELD VICE ASKING FOR USG TO FINANCE AND ACCOMPLISH THE MODIFICATIONS AS WAS THE CASE WHEN MINISTER OF TOURISM AND AVIATION MAYNARD PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR AND NLO (MEMCON WAS FORWARDED TO DEPT 11 APRIL 78).

2. WHILE WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE ON THE REASON FOR THIS CHANGE IN APPROACH, EMBASSY BELIEVES OUR RESPONSE SHOULD BE THAT WHILE THERE IS NO MILITARY NECESSITY FOR THESE MODIFICATIONS, USG HAS NO OBJECTION TO GCOB ACCOMPLISHING THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS SO LONG AS THE ESSENTIAL MILITARY AND LOGISTIC FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS OF THE AIRFIELD ARE NOT HAMPERED OR INTERFERED WITH BY THE CONSTRUCTION OR THE ENSUING INCREASE IN AIRCRAFT/PASSENGER TRAFFIC, AND THAT MILITARY AIRCRAFT CONTINUE TO HAVE PRIORITY USAGE OF THE FACILITY.

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PAGE 02 NASSAU 01167 261913Z

3. CONVERSELY, ITEM (D) OF THE NOTE APPEARS TO ASK USG TO PROVIDE A CONTROLLER TO MAN THE TOWER AS NEEDED. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT OUR RESPONSE TO ITEM (D) STATE THAT, SINCE USG IS LEGALLY AND FINANCIALLY CONSTRAINED FROM PROVIDING A CONTROLLER FOR THE TOWER EXCEPT FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT PROCEDURES BE EXPLORED FOR USE OF THE TOWER BY GCOB-PROVIDED CONTROLLER FOR CIVIL FLIGHTS, AND THAT

WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS AT THE MINISTRY'S
CONVENIENCE.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.
SCHWARTZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: MARR, MILI, EAIR, ECON, ETRD, BF, US
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